

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what action have Government taken on that representation ?

(c) Do Government propose to set up municipal administration in the Andaman Islands ? If so, when ?

(Answer held over.)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

*166. PROF. G. RANGA : Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) which tribes and castes approached Government for being included in the Schedules to the Orders made by the President under the Constitution specifying the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes since the said Orders were notified by the President ; and

(b) what action Government have taken on those requests ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 42.]

(b) It has been decided not to amend these Orders till the matter has been investigated by the Backward Classes Commission. A detailed memorandum setting out the considerations on the basis of which the Orders were issued is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 43.]

SURVEY OF MINERALS

41. SHRI C. L. VARMA : Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Himachal Pradesh is very rich in minerals and possesses rare natural resources ;

50 C.S.D.

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out what minerals are available in those areas ; if so, with what results ; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to take any steps in this direction ?

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD : (a) to (c). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 44.]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SHRI-MATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have a representation from Shrimati Maya Devi Chetty saying :

"I beg to inform you that I was expecting to leave Kurseong by the 1st December latest, but according to the advice of the doctor, I could not do so. I, therefore, pray Your Honour to kindly grant me leave of absence for this session."

Is it the pleasure of the Council that permission be granted ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Permission to remain absent is granted.

MOTIONS FOR ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

THE CENTRAL SILK BOARD

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That in pursuance of clause (e) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board (Amendment) Act, 1952, this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among themselves to serve on the Central Silk Board."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

That in pursuance of clause (e) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board (Amendment) Act, 1952, this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among themselves to serve on the Central Silk Board.

The motion was adopted.

THE CENTRAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL CADET CORPS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR
DEFENCE (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) :
Sir, I beg to move :

That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, as amended by the National Cadet Corps (Amendment) Act, 1952, this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among themselves to be a member of the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :.....

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, are you putting it to vote ? With your permission I would like to ask the Deputy Minister who has brought forward this motion, a question. Will the Government tell us how often this Committee has met during the last twelve months ? Has it met even once during this period ? And if it has not, what is the purpose, really, of having a Committee ? Is it that outside it may be said that we have a Committee ? I raised this question during last session.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you did.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : And the Leader of the House, I think, said in the course of his reply, that he would see to it, that Government were in favour of more frequent meetings being held. But since then no meeting has been held. There was enough time for a meeting to be held. But it has not been held. I think, Sir, that the Council ought to take strong exception to the disregard of this Committee shown so far by the Government. We do not want "show committees" here. If Committees are elected, they ought to be made proper use of.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR (Uttar Pradesh) : Now that it appears that no meeting of this Committee was held for full twelve months, and since Parliament was represented on this Committee, I would very much like to know

from the hon. Minister as to whether the representatives of Parliament on this Committee during the long course of twelve months made any representation to Government requesting them to convene a meeting of the Committee, and if any such request or representation was made, why no meeting was held ; or whether no such representation was made by the representatives of Parliament to the Government in this respect.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Sir, my hon. friend Pandit Kunzru has raised a point saying that it was improper that the meeting of the National Cadet Corps Advisory Committee was not held after the last session.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY (Mysore) : Not last session, but during the last twelve months.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : Yes, but he raised that point last session and now asks why a meeting was not convened. Sir, the reason for this is obvious. The provision in the old Act of 1948 was different from the provision as it stands amended now. According to the previous provision the Members of the old Parliament, once elected, were to continue as members of the National Cadet Corps Advisory Committee during their tenure as Members of Parliament. I think, Sir, that rightly speaking, they ceased to be the members of the National Cadet Corps Advisory Committee after the dissolution of the old Parliament. The Committee was to be reconstituted again. The amending Act also made another significant change. Previously there were two representatives from the Provisional Parliament on this Committee. According to the amended Act, the members are to be elected for a term of one year only—two from the House of the People and one from the Council of States. These elections have not been held so far and the new nominations have also not been announced. We were awaiting these elections and as soon as the Committee is constituted and is complete, the meeting will be

convened. Secondly, without going into the past, I can give an assurance to my hon. friends that this Committee will be meeting more frequently now.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : All I have to say is that this motion on this matter could have been brought forward in this House last session and in that case the meeting of the Committee could have been held now. But since the elections are to be held now, the meeting of the Committee will not be held at least till February next.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : But my question remains unanswered, Sir. The representatives in.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know : "Why did not the representatives from Parliament agitate for a meeting ?"

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : And, "Why did they not call for a meeting ?"

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA : It was not properly constituted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

That in pursuance of clause (1) of sub-section (1) of section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act 1948, as amended by the National Cadet Corps (Amendment) Act 1952, this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from among themselves to be a member of the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am to inform hon. Members that 12th December is fixed as the last day for receiving nominations and the 15th December for holding elections, if necessary, to the Central Silk Board and the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps. The nominations will be received in the Council Notice Office up to 12 noon on the 12th December and the elections, which will be conducted in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, will be held in the Secretary's room, No. 29, Ground Floor, Parliament

House, between the hours of 3 and 5 P.M. on the 15th.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh) : Where will the nomination papers be available ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You take just a slip of paper and write your nominations.

Mr. Biswas will make a statement on the cyclone in South India.

CYCLONE IN SOUTH INDIA

THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (SHRI C. C. BISWAS) : On Saturday last, Government promised to make a statement to the House about the damage caused in Tamil Nad by the recent cyclone. Since then the matter has been taken up in the Madras Legislative Assembly and the Chief Minister made a detailed statement in that Assembly yesterday. I propose to circulate to the Members of the House copies of that statement tomorrow, and I shall also see that copies are made available for Members of the Council. In the meanwhile I proceed to give a summary of the latest information available to us. In view, however, of the fact that communications have been interrupted in certain areas, the statement is not quite complete. Also, I understand that it has been raining heavily in parts of Tamil Nad since Sunday night and this might have caused some further damage.

On the morning of Sunday, the 30th November, a cyclonic storm of great velocity struck the south-east coast of Madras State and passed inland. Cyclonic weather is not unusual at this time of the year in that part of India but it appears to have been exceptionally severe on the present occasion. There was heavy rain from about 9 A.M. to 10 P.M. The cyclone was followed by tidal wave and reports from more than one coastal town in the affected area refer to flooding by sea-water.